

What is claimed is:

1                    1.        A windshield wiper drive apparatus having a windshield wiper  
2 park position, the apparatus comprising:

3                    a housing;

4                    a rotatable drive gear adapted to be coupled to a windshield wiper for  
5 driving the windshield wiper, a drive gear rotatably mounted in the housing; and

6                    a non-contact position detector cooperatively arranged between the  
7 drive gear and the housing to detect a rotation position of the drive gear  
8 corresponding to the windshield wiper park position.

1                    2.        The windshield wiper apparatus of claim 1 wherein the position  
2 detector comprises:

3                    a magnetically responsive sensor mounted in the housing; and

4                    a magnet movably disposed in the housing in an intersecting path of  
5 movement with respect to the sensor, the magnet movable with the drive gear, the  
6 sensor detecting each passage of the magnet therepast.

1                    3.        The windshield wiper apparatus of claim 1 wherein the magnet  
2 is mounted on the drive gear.

1                    4.        The windshield wiper apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:  
2 a cam rotatably mounted in the housing, the magnet carried on the  
3 cam; and

4                    interengaging members carried on the drive gear and the cam for  
5 rotating the cam along with rotation of the drive gear in the normal direction of  
6 rotation of the drive gear.

1                    5.        The windshield wiper apparatus of claim 4 wherein the  
2 interengaging members comprise:

3                    a projection carried on the drive gear; and

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4 a projection carried on the cam, the projections on the drive gear and  
5 the cam lying in intersecting paths of movement.

1 6. The windshield wiper drive apparatus of claim 4 wherein:  
2 the interengaging members provide only unidirectional rotation of the  
3 cam.

1 7. The windshield wiper drive apparatus of claim 4 wherein:  
2 the interengaging member on the drive gear engages the interengaging  
3 member on the cam only in a normal direction of rotation of the drive gear.

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